

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL BICYCLE TASK FORCE

Tuesday, February 16, 1999
MAG Office Building, Suite 200 - Ocotillo Conference Room
302 North First Avenue, Phoenix

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Patrick McDermott, Chandler, Chairman	Steve Hancock, Mesa
*Mark Mansfield, ADOT	Tracy Stevens, Peoria
Tami Ryall for Christopher Miller, Gilbert	Chris Lemka for John Siefert, Phoenix
Susan Bookspan, Glendale	Maureen Mageau-DeCindis, RPTA
*Larry Martinez, Goodyear	Amy MacAulay, Scottsdale
*Mike Cartsonis, Litchfield Park	Eric Iwersen, Tempe
Aaron Iverson, Maricopa County	

*Members neither present nor represented by proxy.

OTHERS PRESENT

Bruce Meyers, AZ Dept. of Administration	Richard Clewis, Phoenix
Mickey Ohland, Chandler	Dawn Coomer, MAG
Richard Janke, Glendale	John Farry, MAG
Mark Melnychenko, Phoenix Transit	Paul Ward, MAG

1. Call to Order

Chairman Pat McDermott called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m.

2. Approval of the January 19, 1999 Meeting Minutes

Susan Bookspan moved to approve the minutes of January 19, 1999 and Aaron Iverson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Call to the Audience

No members of the public were present to address the Task Force.

6. Update on Federally Funded Bicycle Project Selection Process

This agenda item was discussed jointly with the Pedestrian Working Group. Paul Ward provided an update of the selection of Federally funded bicycle projects. He began by distributing an updated copy of the staff option developed with guidance from the Transportation Review Committee (TRC). He

explained the initial modal allocation given as guidance by the TRC, and noted that the pedestrian and bicycle projects had been combined since few pedestrian projects had been submitted. He explained how the staff option was developed and mentioned that the TRC was discussing different match rates for higher cost projects. Steve Hancock asked why bikes receive less than the TRC guidance of \$4 million annually, and John Farry asked if it was because only three years were programmed. Tami asked if combining bike and pedestrian projects resulted in some pedestrian projects not being selected for funding. Dawn Coomer noted that the Pedestrian Working Group (PWG) had ranked both pedestrian and multi-use path projects, and that the Task Force had ranked several multi-use path projects lower than the PWG. Paul responded that the combined projects included rankings of both committees.

Susan Bookspan noted that the expensive projects are necessary to provide connections, and that as retrofit projects, they were more expensive. She was concerned about the burden of a higher match rates on these projects. Pat McDermott asked how much was available per year. Paul noted that the bicycle and pedestrian modes received far more funding than they used to. Pat asked if the committee desired to ask the TRC for additional funding for bike and pedestrian projects. Maureen Mageau-DeCindis agreed with Pat. John Farry added that the level of CMAQ funding doubled with the passage of TEA-21, and that programming only three years of the program allowed more time to develop projects. Richard Janke asked for an explanation of where the additional funding was allocated, and Steve Hancock noted that some of the funding went to dial-a-ride improvements. Susan Bookspan moved to respect the original allocation of funds made by the TRC (\$2 million for pedestrian projects and \$2 million for bicycle projects). Tami Ryall seconded the motion.

The committee discussed the motion, with Tami noting that dial-a-ride improvements should be funded out of the transit allocation. Amy MacAulay agreed. Maureen added that the incremental match may harm future projects which are expensive due to complexity. Pat explained the reasoning behind the match: to show local commitment to projects, and to allow more projects to be funded (perhaps from smaller jurisdictions). Aaron Iverson voiced support for multi-use path projects. John asked about the status of the bicycle education project. Paul noted that this program will be a component of the larger Rideshare program overseen by RPTA. Steve Hancock asked if this would come from the transit allocation, and noted that something was needed from RPTA to show how the funds would be used. Maureen explained that the bicycle education would be a component of overall trip reduction education efforts.

Paul Ward added that there was less than six months to obligate advance design of bicycle funds, and asked the Task Force to identify these projects as soon as possible. Paul asked Eric Iwersen if the pedestrian project along Apache could be accelerated to FY 1999, and Eric responded that it could.

Pat asked for a vote on the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The PWG decided to make a similar motion. Aaron Iverson moved to respect the original allocation of funds made by the TRC (\$2 million for pedestrian projects and \$2 million for bicycle projects). Richard Janke seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The PWG adjourned at 2:06 p.m.

4. Bicycle Plan Update

The 1999 Update of the MAG Regional Bicycle Plan has been completed and approved by the Transportation Review Committee for inclusion into the 1999 Update of the MAG Long Range Transportation Plan for conformity analysis. The Management Committee will address the bike plan update in March, as will the Regional Council.

5. Status Report on FYs 1999, 2000 and 2001 Federally Funded Bicycle Projects

Dawn Coomer provided a review of the projects. Paul Ward encouraged committee members to begin the design process with ADOT as quickly as possible, especially since more funds may be available to help with the design. Pat McDermott requested that staff call or phone member agencies to see which bike projects could take advantage of the funds for advance design.

7. Items for Future Agendas and Work Programs

Dawn Coomer addressed the Task Force and provided an overview of this agenda item. Eric Iwersen mentioned that Tempe has been asked to complete a full grant application for a Transportation and Community and System Preservation Pilot Program (TCSP) project, and showed a copy of their letter of intent to the committee. Steve Hancock suggested asking for funds to write the proposal for a grant. Susan Bookspan asked if this project could be funded some other way since these funds are competitive.

John Farry added that the letter of intent will likely be due in June. Maureen Mageau-DeCindis offered to assist with the letter. Steve added that the Flood Control District and the Bureau of Reclamation should be involved.

Susan noted that design guidelines are needed, but probably aren't as important as the first item. The ordinance was seen as relatively important, but not vital. Comments noted that a parking and shower portion should be included, and that developing a comprehensive ordinance could be time consuming. The committee also agreed that a bike map should be done in FY 2000.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, March 16, 1999 at 1:00 p.m. in the Octotillo Room.

The meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m.